GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:772
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2001
FUEL TESTING LABORATORIES
SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adulteration in petrol and diesel largely goes undetected;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) the norms prescribed by the Bureau of Indian Standards for fuel testing;

(d) whether sufficient number of fuel testing laboratories are available in the country;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the measures proposed by the Government to set up more fuel testing laboratories and provide unadulterated fuel to the consumers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) & (b) : No, Sir. The Oil Marketing Companies have evolved a system of periodic/surprise checks of retail outlets for detecting adulteration. Apart from this, the Anti Adulteration Cell set up in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas also carries out inspection of retail outlets for checking adulteration.

(c) : The Bureau of Indian Standards have prescribed the following specifications for petrol and diesel.

Fuel	BIS Specification
Petrol	IS 2796:2000
Diesel	IS 1460:2000

(d) to (f) : Oil Companies have a number of laboratories at their refineries/installations apart from having Mobile laboratories in the country for testing of fuels. Oil Companies augment the number of laboratories from time to time, if required. In addition, various other agencies like Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institute of Petroleum, Forensic Laboratories, Defence Laboratories, Society for Petroleum Laboratory, etc., have also got facilities for testing of fuels.

In order to curb adulteration of Petrol/Diesel at the retail outlets, Public Sector Oil Companies take the following measures :-

(i) Furfural Doping of Kerosene

(ii) Blue Dying of Kerosene

(iii) Mobile Laboratories & Octane Testing facilities

(iv) Density Check

(v) Stock Variation

(vi) Regular/Surprise Inspections

(vii) Filter Paper Test

(viii) Accuracy of Dispensing Pumps